

dare say that this is not as parochial as some would like us to believe. I think in terms of the resolution itself, as I listen to the dialogue and the debate, which I think is excellent, by the way, I think this is very healthy, a couple of things came through to me, and let me share at least one of those concerns. For those of you who fear that there might be...fear that the constitutional change will take some of the power away from the Board of Regents, under Board of Regents v. Exon, read the resolution as I had to do. Both the current Constitution and the proposed language will have power vested in the regents. There is no change. The language about the Legislature's rule is virtually identical. On page 4,...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BARRETT: ...the current language says their duties and their powers shall be prescribed by law. LB 237CA (sic) language on pages 1 and 2, powers and the duties of the Board of Regents shall be prescribed by law, virtually the same. I think it is true, I think it is well understood by this Legislature that under 239CA the new board will have the power to coordinate and perhaps not to govern so much. But we need to make that significant change in my opinion. All of the indications are, the consultants agree, citizens across this state have told us, that they think the time is now, and I think the time is now. We have come up with a very good resolution which we have before us today, and I would like to see this body pass it over to the people. Let the people decide. Let's put it on the ballot. I think the people are ready. Frankly, I think this Legislature is ready to give it to the people.

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Langford, before your turn comes up, may I please announce some visitors we have in the north balcony that are guests of Senator Wehrbein. We have 44 members from Plattsmouth, Nebraska, sponsored by the Plattsmouth Chamber of Commerce, with their chairman. Would you gentlemen and ladies please stand so that we may recognize you. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Langford, please.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Mr. President, I call the question.